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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8
999 18TH STREET- SUITE 200
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
Phone 800-227-8917
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

Ref: 8EPR-SR

Ms. Gayla Benefeld, Chair
Libby Area Technical Assistance Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 53
Libby, MT 59923

Re: Draft Conceptual Site Model,
Operable Unit 4, Libby Asbestos Site

Dear Ms. Benefeld:

On behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 (EPA) I am pleased to transmit 12 copies of the enclosed document, "Draft Conceptual Site Model (CSM) for Human Exposure, Operable Unit 4 (OU4), Libby Asbestos Site" for members of the Libby Area Technical Assistance Group (LATAG). The document was developed by EPA specifically for OU4 based on our current understanding of sources of Libby amphibole (LA), likely pathways of release and transport of LA, populations that are likely to be exposed to LA, and the likely routes exposure.

Development of a CSM is the first step in performing a baseline risk assessment under the Superfund remedial process. EPA anticipates that the CSM will be used throughout the baseline risk assessment process and may be refined as we gain more understanding about exposures and potential health risks. EPA would like to offer the LATAG an opportunity to review the draft CSM and provide input into its development.

Since the graphical display of the draft CSM is complex, particularly for those who are not familiar with the Superfund risk assessment process, members of EPA's Technical Assistance Unit will make a presentation at the July 11, 2006 LATAG meeting to explain the draft CSM and to answer questions. EPA is open to receiving input on the draft CSM at the meeting. After the LATAG meeting, any additional comments may be sent in writing to EPA. We request that written comments be provided to EPA by July 28, 2006. Written comments will be considered by EPA and will be incorporated into the administrative record for OU4.

We look forward to the discussion at the July 11, 2006 LATAG meeting and to working with you throughout the development of the baseline risk assessment for OU4. If you have any questions about the enclosed materials, please call Jim Luey at (303)312-6791.

Sincerely,

Kathie Atencio, Unit Chief
Superfund Remedial Program
Unit B

cc (w/enclosure): Dr. Gerry Henningsen

